Civil Justice

Selection of site for the construction of the Court buildings at Vellore.

* 1032 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have under consideration the erection of new buildings to accommodate the District and Subordinate Judge's courts as well as the court of the District Munsif, Vellore, North Arcot district ;

(*b*) whether the site selected is to be either (i) in the Thottapalayam Ward of Vellore Municipality north of the Arcot Road and to the east of the new American Gosha Hospital or (ii) in the Velappadi Ward, west of the Arni Road ;

(*c*) whether the Government have received a numerously signed memorial from the inhabitants of Vellore urging that the new court buildings should be located in site (i) and not in site (ii) ; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to enquire into the matter and consult the convenience of the public before finally selecting the site ?

A.—(*a*) Proposals have been received from the High Court.

(*b*) The site selected is to the west of the Arni Road.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The site has been approved of by a site committee composed of the Collector, the District Judge, the Executive Engineer, the District Health Officer and the Chairman, Municipal Council, Vellore.

Abolition of imprisonment for debt.

* 1033 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals now under the consideration of Government to amend Order XXI, Rule 40, of the Civil Procedure Code, so as to disallow imprisonment for debt under certain conditions and to reduce the period of detention of judgment-debtors to three months ; and

(*b*) if so, when the Government will arrive at a decision thereon ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Rule 11 of Order XX and Rule 40 of Order XXI of the First Schedule to the Code of Civil Procedure have been amended with a view to minimising the opportunities for imposing imprisonment for debt. The question of reduction of the period of detention is under consideration by the Government of India. It is not possible to say when they will arrive at a decision in the matter.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" In answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*), it is stated that rules 'have been amended with a view to minimising the opportunities for imposing imprisonment for debt'. Do they prohibit imprisonment for debt ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" May I know, Sir, what explicitly is meant by 'minimising the opportunities' ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That is, if a person is arrested for debt and if he is found to be very poor, the court is given discretion to release him."

Criminal Justice

Nomination of Mr. V. S. Padmanabha Mudaliyar as Public Prosecutor.

*1034 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(i) to lay on the table the letter of the District Magistrate of North Arcot regarding the appointment of Public Prosecutor for the district from the 11th September 1929; and

(ii) to state whether it is a fact that the present nominee of Government, Mr. V. S. Padmanabha Mudaliyar, is not getting a taxable income and yet was recommended by the District Magistrate?

A.—(i) No.

(ii) The Government have no information as to the first part of the question. Mr. V. S. Padmanabha Mudaliyar was recommended for the post by the District Magistrate.

Forests

Expenditure on panchayat forests in Bellary district.

*1035 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the amount of revenue that the Government were deriving, the expenditure they were incurring and the net profit, if any, they were having from the panchayat forests in the Bellary district before they were handed over to panchayat management?

	RS.
A.—Average annual revenue	45,169
Average annual expenditure (including an estimated proportion of the pay of range and district forest establishment)	34,342
Net revenue ...	10,827

Transfer of Bandri and Somalapur reserves to panchayats.

*1036 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total extent in acres of the Bandri and the Somalapur reserves and their extensions respectively in Kudligi taluk, Bellary district;

(*b*) the villages within three miles from the said reserves;

(*c*) the extent of unreserved land available for the grazing of cattle in each of the above villages; and

(*d*) whether there have been complaints to the Government or the district authorities that there is dearth of grazing land for cattle in the villages of Bandri, Nidugurthi, Kodihalli, Gollarahalli, Ankanimanahalli, Somalapur; and, if so, whether portions of Bandri and Somalapur reserves will be demarcated and handed over for panchayat management?